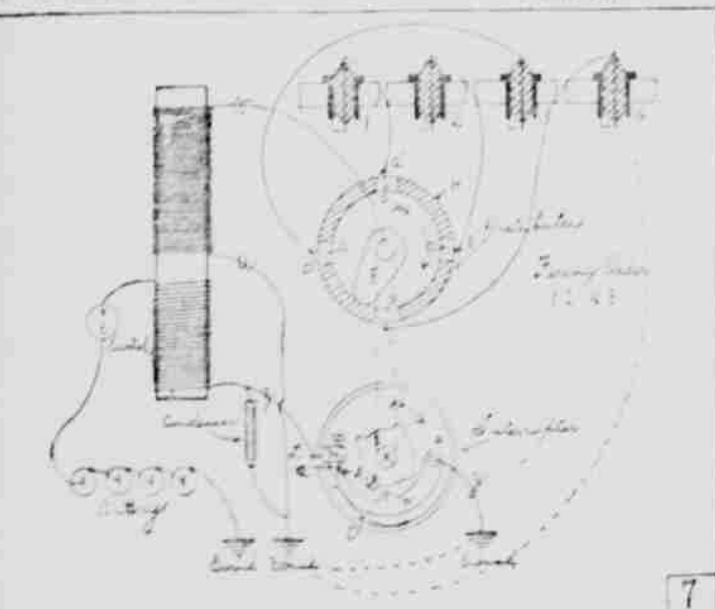


The Automobile Simplified

By PHILIP J. C. GORDON, M. E.

It is not a new thing to say that the automobile is a complicated machine. It is a fact that the average man who has never owned one, or who has owned one for a short time, is at a loss to know how it works. This is the reason why the automobile is so often called a "black box." The purpose of this series of articles is to explain the principles of the automobile in a simple and easy-to-understand manner. We will start with the engine and work our way through the various parts of the car, explaining how they work and how they are connected to each other. By the end of this series, you should have a good understanding of the basic principles of the automobile and be able to diagnose many of the common problems that arise.

The engine is the heart of the automobile. It is the part that converts the energy of the fuel into the mechanical energy that moves the car. The engine is made up of many parts, including the cylinder, piston, crankshaft, and valves. The cylinder is where the fuel is burned, and the piston is the part that moves up and down in the cylinder. The crankshaft is the part that converts the up-and-down motion of the piston into the rotary motion that turns the wheels. The valves are the parts that let the fresh air and fuel mixture into the cylinder and let the exhaust gases out.



The distributor is the part of the engine that sends the spark to the spark plugs. It is a mechanical device that is driven by the crankshaft. The distributor has a rotating arm that picks up the spark from the distributor cap and sends it to the spark plug. The spark plug is the part that ignites the fuel mixture in the cylinder. The distributor is a very important part of the engine, and it must be kept in good working order. If the distributor is not working properly, the engine will not run smoothly and may even stop.

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